

THE EVENING STAR,
With Sunday Morning Edition.

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Mr. Bryan and the Philippines.

The public has been too much occupied with other things to give attention to the felicitations that have passed between prominent Filipinos and Mr. Bryan on the subject of the recent Philippine legislation. They were very warm. Mr. Bryan was thanked for the activity he had always shown in the proposition for Philippine independence, and in reply he expressed a continuing interest in the cause. Senor Quezon, who is figuring on being the head of the first independent government in the islands, was the medium of communication.

Mr. Bryan is the author of the policy of settlement. He was serving in the army and stationed in Florida when the peace commission to settle the questions growing out of the Spanish-American war met in Paris. As soon as the terms of settlement were announced, he resigned his colonelcy and hurried to Washington to participate in the discussion about the peace treaty, which contained the taking over of the Philippines by this country.

He favored the ratification of the treaty, but stated that so far as the Philippines were concerned he wanted them turned over to the inhabitants as soon as a stable government could be erected by them. He brought his party to this view, and had the view incorporated into the democratic national platforms of 1900, 1904, 1908 and 1912.

At the end of eighteen years, however, the Philippines are still American territory. America has not been injured by taking them over, and certainly they have not been injured by American control. In a way, both have benefited. We stand higher in the estimation of the world for the manner in which we have met our obligations at a distance, and the islands have never been in so flourishing a condition. Progress appears in all things on every hand. An old order has passed, and the new order contains more of value than the Philippines had ever dreamed of.

How much longer American control shall last depends in some measure on the approaching election. Mr. Wilson surrendered the Clarke amendment to the Philippine bill with reluctance. He desired, and still desires, an early day for the termination of American control; and, convinced of this, Senor Quezon has gone home to lay the foundation for a Quezon campaign for the presidency of the mediated independent government. But if Mr. Wilson is defeated the end of another eighteen years may find the Stars and Stripes still flying in the islands, the people and the country still advancing, and, as now, everybody but ambitious agitators contented.

Mayor Mitchell of New York has served notice on the labor unions that he will use the full power of the municipal government to maintain order, thereby intimating that he is not too proud to fight, regardless of the classical origin of the phrase.

The District authorities can rest assured that any sort of pistol regulation would go further toward crime prevention than the present method, which merely permits a charge of weapon carrying against a person who has already taken life.

One of the most serious disadvantages of a delay in the enactment of the District appropriation bill is that it postpones work in the streets until just the time when the vacationers are returning home.

The Capital's Health.

Census bureau statistics regarding the health of Washington for the calendar year 1915 have appeared and demonstrate that the National Capital is one of the most sanitary and healthful cities in the country. Estimating the local population July 1, 1915, at 358,679, the bureau states that for the calendar year totaled 6,506, or 18.1 per cent. This is low. It is a remarkable mortality record. But it is the more remarkable in view of the fact that compared with the average for the years 1903 to 1905 it indicated a reduction in mortality in the District of no less than 11.7 per cent.

Washington suffers comparatively little from epidemic outbreaks of disease. Owing to the lack of dense congestion it is enabled to discover contagious diseases quickly and to take measures promptly to prevent spread. Its virtual immunity from infantile paralysis during the past summer is an illustration of the effectiveness of the methods of discovery and prevention, even though the extreme remedy of complete isolation of patient and attendant was not adopted.

General conditions here are conducive to health. An abundant and perfectly filtered water supply, wide streets affording clean air everywhere, great numbers of trees giving shade and purifying the atmosphere, no extremes of climate, an extensive system of parks permitting rest and recreation for all the people, no noxious slums such as that which fester in other large cities, a high degree of intelligence on the part of the population, an educational system which includes every child of school age and so insures the widest diffusion of knowledge regarding health requirements—these are practical advantages which make unmistakably for public health.

It is possible to give Washington even a better record in this respect. Those slums that it does possess, the populated alleys, should be cleaned out and the inadequate dwellings replaced by modern brick sanitary homes for the poor, in the same places or elsewhere. This problem, awaiting solution for years, seemed about to be definitely attacked a year or two ago, but the matter has lapsed, and it remains for final legislation. When the housing equipment of Washington's poor has been improved the mortality rate will unquestionably show another big decline.

Taft and Roosevelt.

Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt clasping hands in public again will present a picture of general interest, as well as of importance to the republican party. They have been at odds six years. The full story of what separated them is unknown, and probably will remain so. Of conjecture and gossip there has been an abundance. What is bringing them together is of public announcement. Both desire the election of Mr. Hughes, and are willing to work together cordially to that end.

There are approximately 109,500,000 pounds of tea imported into the United States during the fiscal year 1916, according to the figures which have just been compiled by George F. Mitchell, supervising tea examiner of the Treasury Department. During the fiscal year of 1915 there was approximately 95,000,000 pounds imported, which shows that our tea drinking has increased about 14,000,000 pounds during the year.

The Children and Waste Paper.

The plan for the public school children to collect old newspapers and assemble them at the schoolhouses, for sale for the benefit of the playgrounds fund, is calculated to cultivate habits of economy among the youngsters. A practical benefit will flow from the enterprise in the supply of cash for an object which is perennially in need of support. The school authorities have heartily approved the plan and the teachers may be expected to do their part in the encouragement of the children to organize the work.

By thus saving old papers the children will be brought into contact with an economic situation of vital interest to every member of the community. It will illustrate to them the fact that everything has a value, however useless it may appear. It will teach them the lesson of care in the disposal of items that may be turned to account. Children are prone to waste, and this organized movement among them will tend to correct the habit.

Tons of valuable materials can thus be collected and utilized, with the children themselves profiting through the maintenance and improvement of the playgrounds. The Star has arranged for the collection of the papers and their marketing in a manner to cause no trouble to the schools. This system, continued throughout the school year, will yield a surprising revenue to the fund and will bring decided benefits in the clearance of trash and the inculcation of ways of economy and conservation.

Reports of the fighting in the Dobrudja are so conflicting that it is impossible to form an estimate of the situation there. Evidently fierce battles are being fought along a narrow front, for the control of the approach into Rumania from the south, and into Bulgaria from the north. Strictly speaking, neither side is distinctly on the defensive. Each wants to go forward if occasion offers, the allied forces seeking to strike at the railroad to Constantinoople and the central powers to land a paralyzing blow upon Rumania and to put that country out of the reckoning. Berlin hears that Mackensen has by a clever turning movement thrown the Russians and Rumanians into confusion and caused them to retreat. Some hear that by a dual flanking operation the allies have forced Mackensen to retreat from Silestria. Sica declares that the allies have won the week-long fight. Evidently it is necessary to wait longer for a definition of the status of this interesting and important campaign, upon which the future Balkan warfare may depend.

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New York has just had a call from the first ship from Iceland in 1,000 years, which is a little slower schedule than the submarine merchantmen have been making.

Everybody has now been heard from on the subject of the price of milk in Washington but the cows and the consumers.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

A Manager's Opinion.

"Nero fiddled while Rome burned."
"I don't believe it. No violinist would consent to appear on the same program with a pyrotechnic display."

Limit Reached.

"I understand the baker is going to put up the price of bread."
"Why doesn't he increase the size of a loaf?"

Varying Experiences.

"Life's a joke," the cynics sneer.
A jest may jar as well as cheer,
And some of us may laugh with glee,
While some confess, "the joke's on me!"

An Appreciation.

"Do you think we will have government ownership of railroads?"
"I hope not. I'd like to be able to speak my mind when a train is late without being accused of disrespect to the administration."

The Era of Great Oratory.

When the campaign days are ringing
With the sentiments intense,
While the orators are flinging
Wisdom to the audience,
Opportunity comes ranging
Into everybody's reach.
"Mighty events so swiftly changing,
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For a chance to hear and learn,
And while the orators are waiting,
To rise up and take his turn.
All his pent-up oratory
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Tea Imports Examined.

It is estimated that from 275 to 300 cups of tea can be made from every pound of tea. Taking that into consideration, there was enough tea imported into the United States during the fiscal year of 1916 to brew 31,500,000,000 cups of tea. Are you one of the tea drinkers? If you are you may be interested to know that the imports for this fiscal year show that the black teas are on the increase at the expense of green teas, and that the green teas are on the decrease. Every shipment of tea that comes into this country is examined.

While tea drinking does care of his ever-increasing class of tea-drinking people, and in order better to protect the health of the people, the government maintains a special corps of examiners and assistant examiners, all under the direction of a supervisor located in Washington. There are at present seven examiners in the seven United States ports of importation. It is no examiner a sample is sent to an expert at the Treasury Department.

Whenever tea is rejected by any of the examiners a pound sample is immediately shipped to the office of the supervisor, where it is compared with its respective government standard for quality, purity and fitness for use.

The very fact that more than 100,000,000 pounds of tea is imported into this country annually is sufficient to understand why the good old watchful uncle is maintaining a tea examiners' force. The amount of tea imported this year, before stated as more than 100,000,000 pounds, is more than a pound for every man, woman and child in the United States. It is the opinion of the Englishmen, and, in fact, some of our own experts here, that in spite of the fact that tea is imported from a port where there is no examiner a sample is sent to an expert at the Treasury Department.

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FIFTY YEARS AGO

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